

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) An inductive sensor, comprising:  
at least two circuit boards;  
receiver circuit traces and excitation coils both arranged on a first one of the circuit boards; and  
components of an evaluation electronic arrangement configured to evaluate signals that originate from the receiver circuit traces arranged on a second one of the circuit boards;  
wherein the circuit boards are joined in a sandwich manner, the receiver circuit traces and the second circuit board in electrical contact, the excitation coils and the second circuit board in electrical contact, at least one component of the evaluation electronic arrangement arranged between the circuit boards.
2. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 1, wherein the components of the evaluation electronic arranged are arranged on both sides of the second one of the circuit boards.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ An inductive sensor ~~according to claim 1,~~  
comprising:  
at least two circuit boards;  
receiver circuit traces arranged on a first one of the circuit boards; and  
components of an evaluation electronic arrangement configured to evaluate  
signals that originate from the receiver circuit traces arranged on a second one of the  
circuit boards;  
wherein the circuit boards are joined in a sandwich manner, at least one  
component of the evaluation electronic arrangement arranged between the circuit  
boards; and  
wherein the first one of the circuit boards includes a recess configured to accommodate at least one of the components of the evaluation electronic arrangement.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ An inductive sensor ~~according to claim 1,~~  
comprising:

at least two circuit boards;

receiver circuit traces arranged on a first one of the circuit boards; and  
components of an evaluation electronic arrangement configured to evaluate  
signals that originate from the receiver circuit traces arranged on a second one of the  
circuit boards;

wherein the circuit boards are joined in a sandwich manner, at least one  
component of the evaluation electronic arrangement arranged between the circuit  
boards; and

wherein at least one of the circuit boards includes an at least partially  
circumferential ridge arranged to at least partially cover a gap between the circuit  
boards joined in the sandwich manner.

5. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 4, wherein the ridge is  
arranged on a cylindrical shell side of the at least one of the circuit boards.

6. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 1, wherein the first one  
of the circuit boards and the second one of the circuit boards are joined to each other  
at least one of mechanically and electrically by a soldered connection.

7. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 1, wherein the first one  
of the circuit boards and the second one of the circuit boards are joined to each other  
by a bonded connection.

8. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 1, wherein the first one  
of the circuit boards and the second one of the circuit boards are joined to each other  
by a welded connection.

9. (Original) The inductive sensor according to claim 1, further comprising a  
filler material arranged to fill a volume between the circuit boards.

10. (Original) An inductive sensor, comprising:

at least two circuit boards, a first one of the circuit boards including a recess;  
receiver traces arranged on the first one of the circuit boards; and  
components of an evaluation electronic arrangement configured to evaluate  
signals that originate from the receiver circuit traces arranged on a second one of the  
circuit boards;

wherein the circuit boards are joined in a sandwich manner, at least one  
component of the evaluation electronic arrangement arranged in the recess of the  
first one of the circuit boards and between the first one of the circuit boards and the  
second one of the circuit boards, the circuit boards connected to each other at least  
one of electrically and mechanically by a solder connection.

11. (Currently Amended) A rotary encoder, comprising:  
an inductive sensor, including:

at least two circuit boards;  
receiver circuit traces and excitation coils both arranged on a first one  
of the circuit boards; and

components of an evaluation electronic arrangement configured to  
evaluate signals that originate from the receiver circuit traces arranged on a  
second one of the circuit boards;

wherein the circuit boards are joined in a sandwich manner, the  
receiver circuit traces and the second circuit board in electrical contact, the  
excitation coils and the second circuit board in electrical contact, at least one  
component of the evaluation electronic arrangement arranged between the  
circuit boards.

Claim 12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) The inductive sensor according to claim 10,  
further comprising at least one excitation coil arranged on the first circuit board.

Claim 14. (Canceled).